GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2397
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001
DIRECT FUNDING TO PANCHAYATS
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Centre for direct funding to Panchayats` appearing in the `Deccan Chronicle` dated July11, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Union Government are contemplating to release funds directly to Panchayats;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the likely time by which it will come into force?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a)to (e): The Deccan Chronicle of 11th July, 2001 reported a statement of the Union Minister of State for Urban Development that the Centre was contemplating release of funds to the Gram Panchayats directly, that the development of villages was not upto expectations in the present set up as the Central funds were being routed through the District Rural Development Agencies and that the Central Government aims at allocating funds and identifying beneficiaries under the National Old Age Pension Scheme, the Indira Awaas Yojana and the Annapurna Scheme through the Gram Sabhas.
Funds under such Rural Development Schemes as the Employment Assurance Scheme(EAS), the Jawahar Gram Samridh Yojana(JGSY), the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) and the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) are released to the District Rura Development Agencies (DRDAs)/District Panchayats(DPs). The Guidelines of individual beneficiary schemes also specify tha identification of beneficiaries be done by the Gram Sabhas.